[Mr. Matthew Murikkan.]

(ii) that the cultivation of over 4000 acres of *punja* lands will suffer seriously on account of the rush of salt water if the lock is not completed at once; and

(*b*) whether they will ascertain the cause for the delay ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) (i) Yes.

(ii) A bund is generally put up to avoid this damage.

(*b*) There does not appear to be any undue delay. However, this is being enquired into.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): With reference to part (ii) sub-division (*a*) will the Government be pleased to tell me whether they know that the bund arrangement costs a good deal of hardship and inconvenience to those who come up the canal in the boats ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The information is noted.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to tell me the date on which the contract was agreed upon for the construction of this lock ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The work is at present going on.

MR. MATTHEW MURIKKAN (*Vaikam*): I am asking the date on which the contract was agreed upon ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

Results of the establishment of Land Mortgage Banks in other countries.

198. **MR. ITTOOP ITTEECHAN** (*Kunnatnad*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are not aware :

(*a*) that the establishment of Land Mortgage Banks has led to unprecedented agricultural prosperity in many countries; and

(*b*) that, in all the countries wherein Land Mortgage Banks have been started, it is the respective Governments that have taken the initiative in the matter ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Government are not aware that the establishment of Land Mortgage Banks has led to unprecedented agricultural prosperity in many countries.

(*b*) The Government are not aware that in all countries where Land Mortgage Banks have been started it was the respective Governments that took the initiative in the matter.

Auction of Puyamkutti in the Kuttamangalam Pakuthi.

199. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) how many years it is since they have decided to disafforest and sell by auction the area known as *Puyamkutti* in the Kuttamangalam pakuthi of the Muvattupuzha taluk; and

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(*b*) whether they will sell this area in small blocks by auction to the ryots for cultivation as soon as possible?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The decision to disafforest the block was in June 1917; and the Notification disafforesting the area was published on the 29th November 1923. But the lands were made over by the Forest Department to the Land Revenue Department only on the 20th March 1925.

(*b*) After the Land Revenue Department got possession of the lands, the whole area had to be surveyed and sub-divided before putting it up to auction in small blocks. The plotted sub-division sketches have now been returned to the Tahsildar after being checked by the Superintendent, Revenue Survey, and further steps for auction sale will be taken soon.

Need for a Satram at Shertallai.

200. **MR. MURUVELIL PACHU PILLAI** (*Shertallai*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that since the opening of the Quilon-Alleppey and the Alleppey-Shertallai-Arur roads, the number of motor passengers from Alleppey to Shertallai, and of boat passengers from Shertallai to Cochin and back to Alleppey *via* Shertallai has considerably increased at present (18-2-1104); and

(*b*) whether they are aware that the large number of passengers belonging to different castes and creeds are now experiencing great hardships, as there is no convenient building at Shertallai for them to take rest or to stay?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The Government are aware that greater facilities have been afforded to travellers by the construction of the roads referred to by the member. But the diversion to the land route of part of the passenger traffic between Alleppey and Cochin is not so great as to render necessary the establishment of a *satram* at Shertallai. Further, there is at Tannirmukkam, near Shertallai, a *satram* convenient for passengers by boats.

MR. MURUVELIL PACHU PILLAI (*Shertallai*): ചേർത്തലനിന്നും തണ്ണീർമുക്കത്തെക്കു എത്രമൈൽ ദൂരമുണ്ടെന്നറിയാമോ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The information can be ascertained either from the Polymetrical Table or from the English Almanac.

MR. MURUVELIL PACHU PILLAI (*Shertallai*): ആലപ്പുഴ—അരൂർ റോഡിൽക്കൂടി യാത്ര ചെയ്യുന്നവർക്കു തണ്ണീർമുക്കം സത്രംകൊണ്ടു പ്രയോജനമില്ലെന്നറിയാമോ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The answer only says that there is the convenience of a *Satram* at Tannirmukham and there is no justification for a *Satram* at Shertallai at present.

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